	Pre-revisd (prior to 1-9 1987) (Rs)	Revised (Rs,)
(ii) *Licence fee for the month:* -For buying agents	15000	180.00
Class 'A' merchants	50.00	60.00
Small Merchants	15. 00	20.00
Wharfage charges for all type of fish except Per lorry load	*Prawns: -*	50.00
		30.00
Per Auto		10.00
Per hand cart		10.00

The above rate will be doubled in the case of Prawns.

(b) A letter had been received from a Member of Parliament suggesting the convening of a meeting of all parties. The Chairman, Cochin Port is convening a meeting with the users.

Doubling of Railway Tracks

478. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the route Kilometres of the railway track which has been doubled during the last three years in the country;

(b) whether there are any projects now under implementation for doubling the tracks; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) 518 Km.

(b) and (c) Details of approved doubling projects are given in the Railway Budget (Pink Book) 1987-88.

Employment to widows and women In distress

479. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANIC-KER: Will the Minister of' HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre have asked the States to consider special measures for employment of widows and women in aistress; and

(b) what other measures the Central Government are contemplating to raise the status of widows in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) All the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been requested to consider issuing orders on the lines issued by the State Government of Rajas-than enabling widows and women in distress to get employment in Government by allowing appointing authorities to call for their names directly and not through, the employment-exchange and by removing the normal age limit for such employment.

Apart from this, the Department of Women and Child Development is implementing a scheme of assistance for setting up Women's training centres for rehabilitation of Women in Distress since 1977-78. The main objective of the Scheme is to rehabilitate destitute women and their dependent children through vocational training and through residential care with their dependent children, where necessary, so that these women may become economically independent. Vocational Training of short term duration not exceeding one year is organised in non-traditional areas where there is potential for immediate employment. The programme is executed through voluntary organisations. Under the Scheme, assistance is provided on

sharing basis of 45:45:10, between the Central Government, State Government and the voluntary agency respectively. In the case of Union Territory Administrations the expenditure is shared between the Central Government 'and the voluntary ncy in the ratio of 90:10.

Soviet know-how for India Railways

480. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to acquire Soviet know-how and expert consultations for the modernisation of Indian Railways; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) A Railway Delegation has visited Soviet Union recently to identify the possible areas of cooperation between India and Soviet Union, in the railway sector. The delegation has identified certain areas for cooperation in respect of imports, consultancy, technology transfer, collaboration in Research & Development, train-ing and collaboration in undertaking railway projects in third countries.

Booking agents appointed by Western Railway

481. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Western Railway has appointed booking agents; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The agents have been appointed in terms of Authorisation of Rail Travellers' Service Agents Rules, 1985 framed in compliance with 'a directive of the Supreme Court. These agents function at important cities for purchasing/cancelling tickets, obtaining refunds and securing reservations on behalf of intending rail travellers from the Railways Reservation Offices.

Grounding of flight at Patna

482. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that aircraft used for flight No. IC 489 on October 28, 1987 had to be grounded at Patna;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the defect responsible for the said grounding of the aircraft could not be detected and corrected at Delhi, though the flight had been delayed therefor more than an hour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) B-737 aircraft, operating flight No. 1C-489 on 28th October, 1987 was grounded at Patna due to nose wheel snag. Man and spares arrived from Delhi and the aircraft resumed the flight with a delay of 5 hrs. 35 mts. at Patna.

(c) The defect occurred at Patna only and as such could not have been attended to at Delhi. The delay in flight ex-Delhi was due to adverse weather at Patna.

Helicopter Service in U.P.

483. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the names of places in Uttar Pradesh which are covered or are proposed to be covered by helicopter services; and the date by which these services are proposed to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): At present Pawan-Hans neither operates nor contemplates I operating helicopter services in Uttar Pradesh.